

# THE RIO NEWS.

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## OFFICIAL DIRECTORY

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## THE EMANCIPATION QUESTION.

In the session of the Rio de Janeiro provincial assembly of the 29th ult., Deputy Pedro D. G. Paes Leme, who is a prominent planter of this province, took occasion to discuss the slavery question and more particularly the results of emancipation in the United States. The arguments used and statistics given were the same as those used in a communication to the *Jornal do Comércio* of November 5, in reply to Minister Hilliard's letter on the results of American emancipation. This first article attracted some attention among slave-holders particularly as Mr. Paes Leme prefaced his discussion with the assertion that he had travelled in the United States and had thoroughly studied the question; but it showed so much misplaced knowledge and so little familiarity with the real factors in the discussion that an answer was wholly unnecessary. As Mr. Paes Leme has seen fit to revert to this same subject again and in so public a manner as to emphasize his errors, we shall refer to them briefly.

As to the repeated assertion that Minister Hilliard has unwarrantably interfered in the domestic concerns of Brazil, and that his conclusions on the results of emancipation in the United States are erroneous, we have only this to say: there has been no interference whatever in the domestic affairs of Brazil by the American minister, and his conclusions on the results of emancipation are based upon personal and positive knowledge. Having lived all his life up to the civil war in a slaveholding community, having seen, and felt the one great blow which gave freedom to four millions of slaves, and then having seen the work of recovery and assimilation and prosperity growing out of the disorganization caused by war and unconditional emancipation, he is exceptionally well fitted to give a correct opinion—and for that opinion his unquestioned integrity of character is a full guarantee. With Mr. Hilliard's statement of causes and results in hand, no one has any need to go to Mr. Paes Leme for information.

As to the results, which are considerably termed "pernicious effects," Mr. Paes Leme asserts that in the question of cotton production "one should study the decade before the war, and the period occurring between 1860 and 1870," that there was a great increase in pauperism and crime after the war; that the sugar industry suffered the greatest prejudice and that "ten years after the war this industry had scarcely reached a third of what it was in 1861," and that therefore the results of immediate abolition have been "fatal" both to society and to industry. To prove these assertions there are given the criminal and pauper statistics of 1850, 1860 and 1870 in which the increase for the last-mentioned year is clearly apparent; the plantation statistics of 1860 and 1870 in which the decrease in the acreage and value of the plantations, in the number of horses and cattle, and in public wealth, is shown; the exports of cotton from 1856 to 1868 inclusive, and the production of sugar in the years 1850, 1854, 1861, 1864, 1870 and 1874. Attention is also called to the estimated value of two sugar plantations before the war which sold for a very small part of those values after the war.

With all due respect for the opinions of Mr. Paes Leme we beg to submit that all this is mere statistical jugglery. There is not one single argument, not one sound conclusion on the results of emancipation in the whole of his labored arraignment. In the first place he leaves out of consideration the one important fact that during the five years from 1861 to 1865 the South was one great battle-field where a million of men fought for the mastery. During that period the production of cotton and sugar ceased, plantations were destroyed, railways were torn up, provisions were consumed even to the verge of starvation, all business enterprise was suspended, every port was blockaded, and enormous debts were contracted.

RIO DE JANEIRO, DECEMBER 15TH, 1880

At the close of the war in 1865 these enormous armies were disbanded, and as in all similar cases there was an increase in pauperism and crime. That increase was very noticeable in the North which had escaped the ravages of war; it was more so in the South where contending armies had left a once beautiful land blackened and barren. And yet all these sad results of a most destructive war Mr. Paes Leme ascribes to the immediate abolition of slavery—and that, too, in the face of repeated assertions of prominent Southern statesmen to the effect that the negro has developed into an orderly and industrious citizen. Had Mr. Paes Leme studied the question half as well as he says he has done he would have found that the great majority of the crimes committed in the South just before and following 1870 were not committed by the negroes, but by the whites chiefly through the agency of a secret organization known as the Ku Klux Klan. And were he wise, he would not have laid down that ridiculous principle that "one should study the decade before the war and the period occurring between 1860 and 1870"—a principle which requires us to draw a comparison between ten years of peace on the one hand, and five years of war and five years of blind endeavor to clear away the wreck and to rebuild social and political communities on the other hand. Such an assertion is simply preposterous; it brands the whole argument as unworthy of serious consideration. It is evident that all comparative statistics based on such a principle are utterly worthless.

The real value of these statistics in which five years of peace are contrasted with five years of war and three years of reconstruction, will be seen in the following statement of the cotton production in periods of five years, beginning with the crop-year 1850-51 and ending with 1879-80—the product of the last year being estimated at 5,675,000 bales:—

1850-51 to 1854-55 inclusive	14,410,534 bales
1855-56 to 1859-60	18,102,577 "
1860-61	3,656,086 "
1861-62 to 1864-65 inclusive	no return
1865-66 to 1869-70	11,912,506 "
1870-71 to 1874-75	19,259,098 "
1875-76 to 1879-80	24,629,402 "
1850-51 to 1859-60 incl. (peace)...	32,513,111 "
1860-61 to 1874-75 (reconstructive)...	162,604 "

From these statistics, which show the aggregate production of cotton, it will be seen that there has been a rapid increase since the war—an increase solely due to the labor of the freedmen. More than that, it will be seen that the product of the ten years immediately following the war—a period when the freedman was learning his first lesson in free labor and self-control—the total product lacked only 1,350,507 bales of equaling the product of the ten years before the war when slavery was at its height and the planter had everything his own way, even to the political control of the government.

The sugar industry, which was almost totally destroyed by the war, has shown a similar increase since 1865. As the sugar-producing states were occupied by contending armies during the war the plantations could hardly be expected to flourish, and their great depreciation in value is not at all surprising. The domestic production of cane sugar by single years, as given in the annual report of the New York Chamber of Commerce, was as follows:

1860.....	119,031 tons
1865.....	5,000 "
1870.....	44,800 "
1875.....	63,500 "
1879.....	112,000 "

It is well understood by all sane men that war does not tend to stimulate production to any great extent. The low results for the years between 1861 and 1870 will therefore be well understood. That they were not the result of the abolition of slavery is as clear as the light of day. It is the unanimous testimony of all well-informed men that the South was never more prosperous than today, and that this happy result is owing to the substitution of free for slave labor. Whatever troubles may have occurred there, they have been the result of political rather

than industrial causes. Of this we need only quote the following from John W. Forney's campaign biography of General Hancock:

It is astonishing how much farther hard old-time truth stands than ordinary figures of speech, and the tables teaching the phisiol of the census are far more convincing than any rhetoric. Several disclaimants appear. First, the old slaves have worked better in freedom than in slavery. Next, the old slave-owners have got richer in freedom than they did in slavery; next, the increase in the railroads of the South has been almost as rapid as the growth of railroads in the West; next, the population has been astonishingly augmented in many quarters; next, popular education is spreading wider and staying more steadily.

## AN EXTRA-COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISE.

To the Editor of THE RIO NEWS:

Sir:—The following printed circular, which undoubtedly has been sent to many prominent business houses, has just been placed in my hands.

[Translation.]

Mr. —— Dear Sir:—From the circular recently published, and which accompanies this, you will readily comprehend that it would be an unpardonable fault on our part, and even an insult to the class which you so nobly represent, to exclude you from that co-operation which the Permanent American Exhibition solicits from all.

On this account, and because the commercial body is deeply interested in the object in question, this board of directors has resolved to select you to represent it in obtaining supporters of this enterprise, and begs to hand you the enclosed list.

As we are well aware of your great influence and your extensive commercial relations, we beg to thank you in anticipation.

Your obedient servants,

JOÃO FRANKLIN DE ALMEIDA LIMA,  
VICENTE DE S. CHRISTÓVÃO,  
DOMINGOS MONTINHO,  
ED. ARTHUR.

Now, Mr. Editor, I have been a merchant in Brazil a great many years and I have seen a great many strange business ventures, but I think I never saw such an amazing piece of impertinence as this. In the first place, I am a British merchant whose business this scheme is designed to destroy, and I am asked to contribute money and influence toward accomplishing that end. In the second place, I am one of those "foreign merchants," whom the projectors of this scheme are advertising in the United States as being "alarmed at the American exhibition" and as "endeavoring to get possession of a majority of the stock issued in order to defeat the purposes of the projectors of the enterprise." And yet, I am now solicited to aid the enterprise and to induce others to take stock in it! Furthermore, I am one of those who, according to Mr. Hopper, are making "50 per cent" out of the Brazilian public. What am I to do, therefore, with an enterprise which proposes to charge only "five per cent" on all sales effected? And further, the American public is told that the country [Brazil] is controlled by a few merchants who subject the people to a burden, and yet my tyrannical services are solicited in behalf of this beneficent agency through which Brazil is to be emancipated from—myself!

And still further, I am one of those who, according to Mr. Hopper, have purchased THE RIO NEWS and are distributing its "vile issues" over the United States, but whose reckless career has been brought to a sudden termination by a prosecution for "personal vilification." And yet, "usurer," and "monopolist" and "wififer" that I am said to be, I am now called upon to lead my "great influence" and "extensive relations" to aid a scheme which I am accused of using such base means to injure! Permit me to say, Mr. Editor, that I have lived in this city a great many years, and this is the first time, within my knowledge, that I have been taken for a fool. It is my private opinion, publicly expressed, that this circular is one of the coolest pieces of impertinence on record—it would do credit even to Mr. Hopper.

As to the scheme itself I have only this to say. If American manufacturers set fit to get up an exhibition and pay for it like men, that is an affair of theirs, not mine. I do not believe in such extra-commercial enterprises myself, simply because all business experience is against them. England did not build up her trade here, nor elsewhere, by any such clap-trap expedients, but her merchants went out into foreign markets, established commercial houses, invested their money in them, and then by close attention to business and careful study of every special feature and requirement of the market, won the position which they now occupy. It is a good old custom in English houses to send out boys to these foreign markets where they are trained into a thorough knowledge of their peculiar conditions and requirements; and then, in good time, these boys become the managers of the business. Against such a system the Americans must oppose something more substantial than "Brazilians," speculators, and sample shows, before they can hope for any substantial success. And more than that, the effort must come directly from themselves as a guarantee of their good purposes, instead of from foreigners, as illustrated by the above circular, whose interest in American trade is at best an unknown factor.

As a British merchant, and one whose age and experience entitles my opinion to some consideration, I can frankly say that we have nothing to fear from such an enterprise as this Permanent American Exhibition—which is really American only in name. Should it ever be carried into operation—which I do not anticipate in the least—it will result in many severe losses and in the forced sale of large quantities of unsuitable goods—through which our business may be slightly injured for a time. When it is all over, however, we shall be the gainers, as American trade will suffer a severe blow through the unbusiness-like character of the enterprise. A sound business is always benefited by the failure of an unsound one. As far as regular competition is concerned, we are ready to meet the Americans just as we meet the French and Germans. We are ready to acknowledge their superiority in some lines of goods, and, through proper methods, we are aware that they will win and hold a certain share of foreign trade; but until they settle into permanent, responsible business-like methods of trade, we shall suffer as little as they will gain.

And as to that "50 per cent" profit which Mr. Hopper accuses us of making, it is quite as mythical as his assumed character of an old merchant of this city. For myself I would be very glad to clear out my whole stock to-day on an average profit of *five per cent.*; more than that, from present indications, I will be delighted to accept an average profit of *five per cent.* on my business for the coming year.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,  
A BRITISH MERCHANT.  
Rio de Janeiro, 10th December, 1880.

MARTIN GARCIA.

The visit last week of President Roca to this historic land brings it under fresh notice before the public; not that we attach any more political significance to his excellency's visit to this island than to his trip to the United States or to Europe. Martim Garcia is technically called the "Gibraltar of Brazil," and for the last twenty years there has been a continued drayway effort to fortify it in the style of its great namesake, but rich and insignificant as are the Uruguay and Parana, these noble rivers must run for long distances to the sea before they can be made navigable, and the traffic of Martim Garcia can see no higher importance than that the interests which it guards or the trade of which it holds the key. So far back as 1857, Congress voted a considerable sum of money for the fortification of the island, and there can be no doubt that the place has been a veritable Gibraltar since the great heavy guns are mounted, and earth works to cost millions of dollars are completed, that show we attach higher value to the place than that of a mere prison island, or a quarry wherewith to pave the streets of Buenos Ayres. There are batteries and magazines of gunpowder and cartridges, and Conchonha, and the high granite from which the stone is cut, an isthmus, the Argentine flag flies.

The result of the trip, and the island inspection is, to use President Roca's own words, most satisfactory, and instead of spending money in increased fortifications, earthworks and batteries on the island, the government has by the peaceful device of containing the channel and canalization works of the Poco. The public will, no doubt, fully approve of President Roca's determination in this matter, the canalization and improvement of the Poco being infinitely more desirable than the number of batteries, etc., etc., etc., which were proposed as a military station will be the subject of a message to Congress, and it is also proposed to make the island, the head naval station of the republic and supply it with a large graving dock. —Buenos Ayres Standard, Dec. 4.

## THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRIMONTHLY

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the French packet of the 15th., and Royal  
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EDITORIAL ROOMS.—8 Rue São Pedro.

RIO DE JANEIRO, DECEMBER 15TH, 1880.

THE crisis brought upon the coffee market of Brazil by the news on the 8th that several important dealers in New York had failed is the severest that has been experienced for many years. For days the market has been paralyzed and not even a large concession in prices has been sufficient to instill confidence into it. At the same time the exchange market suffered a complete collapse, to open on the 13th inactive and at 22 pence. Although it is generally believed that the market will soon recover, it will hardly be possible for it to regain a confident tone for some time to come. The stocks in the United States are large and the failure of the houses which were "bullying" the market has not only broken down prices to an exceptionally low figure but it has set free so large a quantity of coffee as to prevent any restriction for some time to come. We may expect, therefore, that low prices will prevail some time yet, the more so as the stocks here are unusually large and the daily receipts still continue excessive. The present state of the market is one which merits serious consideration.

An official circular of the provincial government of São Paulo, dated the 29th ult., gives the slave population of that province as 164,948. According to official documents the number of slaves matriculated in São Paulo under the emancipation law of 1871 was 169,964. In the seven years, therefore, since the closing of the registry books on the 30th of September, 1873, the decrease in the slave population of this province has been only 5,016, or at the rate of 717 per annum. At a rough calculation, based upon the annual average of nearly 25 deaths per thousand in the province of Rio de Janeiro in the 5 1/4 years ending December 31, 1878, the total number of deaths in the slave population of São Paulo in the seven years under consideration would be over 29,000. According to the last report of the minister of agriculture the number of slaves freed by the first distribution of the emancipation fund in 1875 was 413; and the number freed by gift and judicial decree from September 28, 1871, to December 31, 1877, was 4,555, or at the rate of 729 per annum. At this rate the voluntary and judicial liberations would aggregate nearly 6,700 to date. It will be seen, therefore, that the decrease in the slave population of São Paulo through death and emancipation has been over 36,000, and that the difference between this total and that of the official report of the 29th ult. represents the increase in the number of slaves during the last seven years. It should be remembered, however, that São Paulo has imported slaves very largely from the other provinces, and that this result does not necessarily represent an illegal increase. São Paulo is one of the wealthiest and most productive provinces of the empire, and is also one of the most dependent upon slave labor. If it is possible for her to reduce her slave population only 717 a year when the natural decrease is over 5,000, the law of gradual emancipation is certainly accomplishing very little for the extinction of slavery within her borders. The natural result, as demonstrated by the figures above given, will be that under the present law São Paulo will be the last to free her slaves, the last to feel the stimulus of free labor, and one of the two or three provinces which will cling to the transition period longest, and suffer its evils and losses most deeply. This period of transition from slave to free labor can not be one of prosperity and development; it will necessarily be one of stagnation and loss. It is therefore a matter of very great importance to the

people of that province whether they will permit the continuance of this inter-provincial slave traffic with the certain result of being crushed by it at the last. The question is not a mere sentiment; it is an economic question of the most practical and vital importance. The Paulistas have earned the reputation of being among the most intelligent and progressive of Brazilians; this problem of gradual emancipation is one which merits their thoughtful consideration.

AMONG the many agencies necessary to the comfort, health and convenience of the population of all large cities there are none of greater importance than that of rapid and cheap suburban communication. We were pleased to commend, in our last issue, the recent instructions of the minister of agriculture to the director of the Dom Pedro II railway to provide special facilities for the transportation of milk, fruit, vegetables, etc., into this city. It was a wise and essentially provident measure; it will open out new fields for industry—and that too among the people who need it most—and it will add largely to the comforts and health of the city. Although the beneficial effects of this policy may not be immediately felt, for a new industry like that of small farming is not built up in a day, nothing can be more certain that that it will eventually be one of the greatest benefits that could have been conferred upon this community. Prospective as it may sound, there is more true statesmanship in an act of this character which adds directly to the material comfort of mankind, than in all the fine-spun theories of political rights, privileges and administration that were ever invented. Whatever may be the benefits accruing from the elaborate electoral reform project upon which the Senate has now spent so much time and eloquence, they will be as naught beside the substantial benefits sure to grow out of this unpretending act, in case it is carried out to its legitimate ends. And at the same time that this genuine reform measure is put into operation, it is to be hoped that certain other and no less important private measures will be put into execution. Next to a good and cheap supply of food this city needs easy and cheap communication with the mountainous districts surrounding it. There are but few in this great mass of people who can get away from their daily work, even were they able to meet the expense. Were there convenient lines of railway running out into the surrounding mountains and managed with that liberal spirit which prevails on similar roads leading from other great cities of the world, many of these people would live outside the city and still more would improve the opportunity to spend their holidays in the fresh air of the mountains or along the sea-shore. It is true that these habits are largely the result of education, and that this community would not profit by the opportunity to the same extent as would the English or French, but happily it is an education which is easily and quickly acquired. Those who have seen the changes wrought by the tramways of Rio will not question the possibilities of suburban railways. There are three such lines already projected which should be constructed at the very earliest day possible—one to Petrópolis, one down the coast, and one to Tijuca by way of Santa Theresa and the mountain ridge running westward from the Corcovado. All these lines, particularly the first two, will serve to supply the city with provisions as well as to carry passengers, and the latter will open up some of the healthiest and most desirable localities for suburban residences that can be found in the neighborhood of any city. When it is possible for a business man to leave his office at three or four o'clock in the afternoon and, within half an hour or so, to get completely away from the sights, sounds and smells of crowded streets, the attractiveness of life here will be immeasurably increased and the lives of commercial men will be very much prolonged. In urging the construction of these railways we are not advocating any special enterprise, nor the construction of expensive roads. For the purposes mentioned the lightest and narrowest of narrow-gauge roads, consistent with safety, will serve every purpose, and if managed well and economically the capital invested in them can not fail to yield a handsome profit.

THERE were over 1,100,000 letters passed through the British Post Office last year, besides 114,000,000 post cards, 214,000,000 book packages and circulars, and above 130,000,000 newspapers.

## LEGISLATIVE NOTES.

The sessions of the Senate continue to be almost wholly occupied with the discussions in and reading of the electoral reform bill. The discussion is now upon Art. XVIII, which is the second of the penal clauses of the bill. As there remain only four more articles, it may reasonably be assumed that the art and reading will soon be terminated, after which the extraordinary session will probably be adjourned until the close of the hot season. It is reported that a caucus of conservative senators recently decided upon this course, and also that no opposition should be made to the bill in 3rd reading except Art. VII, which grants full political rights to naturalized and non-catholic citizens. The ultramontane and ultra-conservative element of the party are determined to prevent the bestowal of equal rights upon these two classes, and it will require all the strength and skill of the government to meet their opposition successfully.

The main feature of the electoral reform discussion since our last issue has been upon Art. XVI of the Senate substitute, corresponding to Art. XV of the government project. This article refers to the division of provinces into districts, and the election of deputies by districts instead of by a general provincial ticket as at present. The main opposition was that the change was unconstitutional—an argument already worn threadbare in the present discussion—and that the proposed division would result in districts of unequal populations. It was also urged that Counselor Sarávia himself had argued against the proposed system some twenty years ago—an argument which the prime minister frankly met with the reply that twenty years in public life often effects changes in one's opinions and that he had become convinced of the necessity of the projected reform. After a protracted discussion the government project was passed on the 10th.

On the 4th inst. Senator Meudes d'Almeida, of Maranhão, the leader of the legislative opposition to the American steamship line, presented a petition for papers relative to the affairs between the government and that company. The Chamber had approved the original contract with the line, still sleeps in a committee pigeon-hole. The supplemental credit of \$65,615,586 to the minister of agriculture for colonization, subsidies and railways received the final approval of the Senate on the 6th. On the same day Barão de Cotegipe made a vigorous attack on the government management of the "Iahia ao S. Francisco" railway, and asked the minister of agriculture for comparative tables of freights on the various railways subsidized by the state and the provinces. On the 11th Senator Silveira da Motta brought up the government coffee speculation of last February again, and asked what had been the results. He also asked concerning the relations between the government and the Banco do Brasil for loans. The recoveries, however, do not present the same favorable aspect.

—It is announced that a great loan bank—to be known as the Banco Nacional Hypotecário—is about to be started in this city. The capital is to be very large and to come from abroad. We have as yet no positive information—but it can truly be said that there is now a magnificent opening in Brazil for loans. The recoveries, however, do not present the same favorable aspect.

The new postal card regulations have already come to grief. Many people have been mailing "local" cards of 20 reis to Niterói, and the cards still remain in the postoffice. The regulations require that all cards sent out of the city shall be of the 50-reis denomination, and therefore it costs 2½ times as much to send one across the bay as it does to send it either to the Botanical Garden or to Caiá—a much greater distance.

—The *Gazeta de Notícias* is informed that at a caucus of conservative senators on the 8th instant, it was resolved to adjourn the 3rd discussion of the electoral reform project until the next session, and then to resist voting to Art. VIII that grants full political rights to naturalized citizens. A majority of the conservative senators were in favor of rejecting the whole project but owing to some opposition it was not decided to make the attempt.

—An account appeared in the *Gazeta da Tarde* of the 9th inst. of a most horrible crime committed by a man named Amaral on a little girl, only five and one-half years of age, which had been left in his care. The child was examined by a police justice and was taken to the hospital; and yet no steps have been taken, as far as we can learn, for the villain's arrest. If guilty this man should receive the severest penalty of the law.

—The new postal cards are selling at the rate of about a thousand a day since their issue on the 2nd inst. The clumsy method of handling them, however, is a matter which should receive early attention of the director general, as it involves a loss of time in waiting for the counting and is not conducive to the tidy appearance of the card. Were they to be put up in packages of 25, their sale and good appearance would be very much improved.

—We are requested to state that there are frequent cases of desertion brought to the attention of Mr. Curran, of the Sailor's Mission, and as the funds of that enterprise are very limited the good offices of the charitable are appealed to for aid. There is a constant demand for food, clothing and employment. The regular work of the mission is progressing favorably. Now that the hot season is at hand, with its unavoidable increase of sickness, it is to be hoped that our readers will not forget the need of books, magazines and newspapers.

—A valiant soldier of the 2nd artillery, named José Cupertino Cardoso, met a Paraguayan woman, named Josephina, in an eating-house on Rua do Cocalo on the evening of the 7th inst. when he bravely tried to kill her. Josephina received three severe knife thrusts in the side. José's explanation of the matter was that the woman had severed her relations with him. The frequency of these brutal outrages by soldiers throughout the whole empire ought to convince even the war department that some steps should be taken to enforce wholesome discipline. A little shooting or hanging would probably meet the exigency admirably.

—The even tenor of life in the city council was rudely disturbed on the 2nd inst. by an announcement in the *Gazeta de Notícias* that a settlement of the accounts of a bankrupt house of this city allowed the payment of money to certain aldermen for questionable purposes. There was a great demonstration of offended virtue, and resolutions were at once passed expelling all attendants who had made such a shameful and unauthorized use of their position as to extort money in the name of a city father. Some also impugned the accounts.

—The 1st vice-president of the Chamber, Deputy Gávio Peixoto, is credited with the statement that a slave in São Paulo will pay for himself every three years. And yet, abolition is deemed as robbery and spoliation.

—The *Gazeta de Notícias* of the 11th inst. called attention to the fact that the slaves which were liberated in some municipalities of this province through the present distribution of the emancipation fund have not yet been set at liberty. The letters of liberty were sent to their masters some time ago, but as the government has thus far failed to pay the money awarded, the masters continue to hold the freedom of slavery. The government replies that reports have been received from all but three municipalities, and the delay is owing to local officials.

—Decree 7,919, of the 25th ult., authorizes the celebration of a ten years' contract with William Darley Bentley for a steamship line between Rio de Janeiro and Halifax, Canada, with intermediate calls at Bahia, Paraná, Ceará, Maranhão, Pernambuco, and St. Thomas. The annual subsidy will be 100,000\$, and the service is to begin within three months from July 1, 1881. The subsidy is contingent on the continuation of certain favors promised in behalf of the Canadian government. Special terms are specified for the transportation of the mails, government officials and colonists.

—Many of our readers will regret to learn of the death of Counsellor Joaquim Pereira da Farja, which took place on the 13th inst. He was an old merchant of this city, and was highly esteemed.

—The minister of agriculture has issued instructions for the examination of the bar at the entrance to the harbor of Victoria, Espírito Santo, on the return of Col. W. M. Roberts from the north.

—The minister of agriculture issued an official note on the 7th inst. requesting the minister of finance to pay the Amazon Steam Navigation Co. \$80,000\$ for services rendered from November, 1877, to June 1879.

—An official letter of the 3d inst. from the minister of agriculture to the provincial presidents of Para and Amazonas, directs that all needful aid should be given to Mr. J. C. Brauner in his search for a vegetable fibre for the Edison electric lamp.

—Decree 7,899, of the 16th ult., continues the imperial authorization to the Amazon Steam Navigation Co. to transact business in Brazil. This decree authorizes the company to reduce its capital stock from £1,000,000 to £750,000, and the nominal value of its shares to £150.

—Dr. Liais, of the Castello Observatory, calculates that the transit of Venus in 1882 will be an interesting phenomenon, and that the sum of 20,000\$ will cover all his expenses in preparing for it. He, too, wants an observatory on São Antônio, and to secure it he proposes to give everyone, who may wish, a good long look at the celestial escala-

tion. —The decrease in the deposits at the government savings bank during the last half of November was 20,413\$74\$.

—The appointment of Comendador Carlos Américo Sampayo Viana as inspector of the custom house of this port, is an act which will receive the hearty commendation of all business men. Inspector Sampayo Viana has been acting inspector for some months, and he is an officer who holds the entire confidence of this community.

—There may be many and just complaints against the customs laws and regulations, there are none who do not believe but what the new inspector will execute them fairly and impartially. The only regret felt is that this deserved promotion takes an efficient man from the permanent staff of the custom house, and makes him a political official whose term of service will expire with that of the ministry under which he serves. The vacancy of assistant inspector, made vacant by this promotion, has been filled by the appointment of Comendador Pedro Lopes Rodrigues.

—A meeting of Protestants in a private house in Rua de Diogo Antônio de Feijó, on the 9th inst., was attacked by some disorderly characters and broken up. Sticks and stones were thrown into the house from the rear, and when the three policemen who were guarding the front door were appealed to for protection they replied that their mission was to guard the front and did not extend to the rear of the house. When the Protestants left the place they were attacked in the street and several were wounded with stones and clubs, among them some women. This also seemed to be beyond the jurisdiction of these discriminating police, men as not one single arrest was made. There is but one characterization of this whole affair—it was disgraceful in the highest degree. The country is supposed to be tolerant to all religions, and it is supposed to guarantee protection to them all—it is a gross error. The frequent recurrence of these disgraceful scenes proves that such a thing as full religious liberty is still unknown in Brazil.

—An astronomical festival and breakfast was given on the Morro de São Antônio on the 8th inst., to which all the "secessos" from the "only original" on the Morro do Castello were invited. The affair was a brilliant one and seems to have totally eclipsed the late reception to Jupiter given by the riven institution. There was "roast beef a la Ecclesiastic," "salade aux realtà," "confit aux aipodes," and "vins aux perturbations,"—everything in fact but one of those tender little morsels from the "People's Muse." The *rainha d'atre* of this little "feast of reason and flow of soul" was the fair approach of Madame Venus to Old Sol, over whom she proposes to turn a bold hand spring on the 6th of December, 1882. It is thought highly desirable that this eccentric behavior in the part of the celestial beauty should be appropriately observed by the Brazilian public, so the São Antônio commission, which has no observatory as yet, proposes to ask for the modest sum of 100,000\$ to bring the celestial performance fully before the public.

—The Edison Electric Light Company of New York has commissioned Mr. John C. Branner to visit Brazil and other South American states in search of a vegetable fibre for the Edison electric lamp. Mr. Edison has so far completed his invention that the only thing now wanting is a fibre for the carbon arch which will last longer than the substance thus far used. He has already discovered the kind of fibre needed, but thus far he has been unable to find it in sufficient quantities for practical use. The plant affording this fibre belongs to the endogues, but Mr. Branner will not restrict himself to collecting samples of this class alone. He will carefully collect samples of all the vegetable fibres that are produced in the country, together with full information as to their location and quantity. Mr. Branner was an assistant of the late Prof. Hartt, and is exceptionally well fitted to make this exploration. He will first stop at Pará whence he will ascend the Amazon to its headwaters. In the meantime, he will be glad to receive samples of vegetable fibers, especially those of the bamboo and agave, from those who are interested in his mission. The samples may be sent to him in care of the New London and Brazilian Bank, at Pará.

## COMMERCIAL

December 14th, 1880

Per value of the Brazilian mil reis (\$800), gold 27 d.  
do do do U.S. coin at \$4 84 per £1. sig. 54 45 cents.  
do \$1,00 (U.S. coin) in Brazilian gold 28 837  
do of £1. sig. in Brazilian gold.... 8 838

Bank rate of exchange on London to-day..... 22 d.  
Present value of the Brazilian mil reis (paper) 8 85 rs. gold.  
do do do in U.S. coin at \$4 80 per £1. sig. 44 4x cents.

Value of \$1.00 (\$4.80 per £1.) in Brazilian currency (paper)..... 28 72

Value of £1 sterling..... 10 890

EXCHANGE.

December 4.—Market weak and inactive. Light transactions in bank paper at 23 9/16 on London, 420 rs. on Paris and Hamburg, 22 1/2 rs. on Berlin; in mercantile paper at 23 1/2 to 14/11, London, 420 rs. on Paris and 417 rs. on Paris. Gold 4 1/2 per cent 104 1/2 per cent; sovereigns 10 890, cash.

Dec. 6.—There was a rise of 3d. in bank rates—the following schedule being adopted by the English Bank and Banco Commercial.—Bank paper at 23 9/16 on London, 420 rs. on Paris, 22 1/2 rs. on Hamburg, 22 1/2 rs. on Berlin; in mercantile paper at 23 9/16 on London, 420 rs. on Paris, 417 rs. on Paris. Gold 4 1/2 per cent 104 1/2 per cent; sovereigns 10 890, cash.

Dec. 7.—The New London and Brazilian Bank adopted yesterday's schedule. Light transactions in bank paper at 23 9/16, and in mercantile paper at 23 9/16 on London, 417 and 418 rs. on Paris. No business effected in stocks.

Dec. 9.—Market completely paralyzed; no transactions effected either in bank or mercantile paper. This was produced by yesterday's telegram of the failure of two large New York merchants, Arnold and Kimball, and the consequent decline in coffee. General consternation among coffee dealers. Sovereigns went up rapidly, sales being effected at 10 890 to 11 890. No quotations in exchange.

## THE RIO NEWS

## MARKET REPORT

Rio de Janeiro, December 14th, 1850.

**Coffee.**—Our last report was on the 4th instant. Since then the reports from the United States, advising a considerable fall in prices and the suspension of several houses engaged in the coffee trade, combined with the increasing receipts here, caused our dealers to reduce their price 30 to 40 reis per 10 kilos. Business in the United States has come to a complete standstill, whereas large quantities are to be effected for Europe, although the advices from that quarter are no more encouraging than those from the United States.

The total sales since the 4th ult., amount to 10,178 bags; viz:

10,320 bags for United States

8,500 " " Europe

1,500 " " Cape of Good Hope

4,160 " " elsewhere.

Total... 10,178 bags.

Receipts since the 1st instant now average

17,113 bags per day.

against 18,494 " in same period of December 1879

19,453 " " 1878

5,173 " " 1877

7,539 " " 1876

Stock is estimated to-day at 32,000 bags.

We quote, per 10 kilos:

Washed..... Nominal

Superior..... 4,800 to 5,150

Good first..... 4,800 to 4,950

Regular..... 4,800 to 4,950

Ordinary first..... 3,800 to 4,000

Good second..... 3,800 to 3,950

Ordinary second..... 3,800 to 3,950

Potosi &amp; Co.

Machado &amp; Co.

Carril Urbanas

(outside sales).

S. J. Oliveira (inside sale).

Navigation Leitman

H. &amp; J. A. G. Santos

G. &amp; J. P. Wagner

Confidence, L.

T. &amp; J. F. H. Ayres

A. &amp; J. C. Braga

J. &amp; J. P. Wagner

## PROVINCIAL NOTES.

The November receipts of the São Paulo provincial post office were 1,345,780.

Twenty-one slaves have been freed at Pelotas, Rio Grande do Sul, through the emancipation fund.

The November receipts of the Rio Grande custom house were 238,155\$049, and from internal revenue 28,722\$645.

The Regeneração, of Santa Catharina, says that the Santa Cruz light, at the north bar of that harbor, is to be substituted by a red light of higher class.

The provincial budget of Ceará for the fiscal year 1881, appropriates a total sum of 913,500\$, of which 1,03,700\$ is destined for communication. The receipts are estimated at 885,000\$.

The November receipts of the Bahia custom house were: national 572,080\$975, provincial 119,292\$095; internal revenue: national 70,135\$210, provincial 40,509\$096.

According to the *Gazeta*, of Porto Alegre, the total amount collected in the province of Rio Grande up to date for the relief of the sufferers from the Santa Catharina floods exceeds 6,000\$.

A woman named Severa was murdered at S. Luís Gonzaga, Maranhão, toward the close of last month, by Raymundo Joaquim dos Santos, a soldier stationed at that place. The assassin was arrested.

The municipality of Diamantina, Minas Geraes, fixes 30 slaves with its quota of the present emanicipation fund distribution, amounting to 25,450\$. To this sum the slaves added 750\$ as the amount of their savings.

The *Pernambucana*, of São Paulo, of the 10th inst., says that two tickets of the new Rio lottery of 6,000,000\$, have been discovered in São Paulo with identical numbers—that of 159,110. That squares the score on the Virações duplicates.

The *Pernambucana*, of Para, of the 13th inst., announces the discovery of a defalcation in the post office of that province. The superintendent, Anselmo Pinto Lima Gaetano, had been suspended. According to the *Diário de Brum* the defalcation amounts to 23,014\$140.

The recent case of attempted poisoning at São Paulo, was that of Maria Leopoldina da Silva Cruz. The guilty party was her husband, Líder, Carlos Augusto da Vasconcelos Tavares, who has since been arrested, together with a female slave as an accomplice in the crime.

The November returns of the Pernambuco custom house show the following results:

1880	1879
Customs..... 1,320,428\$802	964,968\$017
Consulates... 200,212 \$30	191,039 314
Resebedoria... 47,979 400	49,081 126

The amount collected at Santos from the 1/2 per cent. tax on foreign goods shipped from one Brazilian port to another, from the 1st of January to the repeal of the tax in November, was 42,969\$765. And for so petty a sum the late financial light of this country thought himself justified in imposing such vexatious and unjust tax.

The receipts of the municipal treasury of Pernambuco during the quarter ending September 30 were 50,000\$504, which added to a balance of 27,028\$437 remaining over from the preceding quarter gave a total of 77,028\$941. The expenditures during the quarter were 58,414\$154, leaving a balance in the treasury of 18,609\$789.

A murder occurred on the Villa Rica plantation, Campos Frios district, Pernambuco, on the 19th ult., in which a woman named Josepha Francisca de Brito, broke into the room of a neighbor, Maria Joaquina de Nazareth, and stabbed her so fatally that she died the following morning. A jealousy between the two women was the cause.

At a meeting of the planter's club of Campinas, São Paulo, on the 8th inst., the present anti-slavery movement came up for discussion. After two hours had elapsed it was finally decided to appoint a commission to carefully study the whole question and to formulate an opinion upon the position which commerce and agriculture should assume on the movement.

The provincial government of Bahia signed a contract with Thomas Passini on the 23rd ult., for a season of Italian opera during the coming year. The contract specifies the number of artists, the number of pieces in the orchestra, and the operas to be sung. The season will last three months, to begin not later than May 15. The provincial government will pay a subsidy of 20,000\$.

The *Gazeta de Porto Alegre* is pursuing a course in its selection of serial stories which deserve the highest commendation. It has already published Portuguese versions of some two or three of Dickens' novels, and has just now begun "Nicias Nickleby." In view of the wretched trash published by many papers, the readers of the *Gazeta* should consider themselves highly fortunate.

The November receipts of the Santos custom house were 531,272\$562, as against 525,883\$788 for the same month of last year. The principal items are,

1880	1879
Imports..... 276,520\$863	228,025\$173
Exports..... 227,021 505	258,053 201

The deposits, included in the above totals, were 2,122\$086 in the past month and 2,649\$879 in the same month of this year. The November internal revenue receipts were 136,260\$754.

On the morning of the 9th inst. José da Valle, a son of Valeriano José da Valle, a planter of Dem. posta on the "União e Industrial" road, was killed by four slaves, each one of them striking him with a knife in turn. The assassins were captured in the afternoon at Entre Rios, no resistance being offered. The victim was a young man of 18 years and was highly esteemed in that locality. On the following day a large body of people attended the burial, after which, under the impulse of great excitement and indignation, some 500 hundred of them marched to the jail, took out the prisoners and killed them.

## RAILROAD NOTES.

The November receipts of the Carangola railway were 48,258\$340.

The minister of agriculture has directed that tenders shall be solicited for the extension of the Dom Pedro II railway.

The October receipts of the Feria de São Paulo branch of the Central Bahia railway were 11,574\$780 and the expenditures 11,386\$490. The number of passengers carried was 2,247.

The *Gazeta* is informed that the Cantagalo railway is to be sold. The provincial government will not call for tenders owing to the failure of the call at the beginning of the year.

The October receipts of the Paulista railway were 236,547\$750 and the expenditures 71,490\$899. For the four months ending October 31 the receipts amounted to 723,603\$830, and the expenditures 257,890\$311, leaving a net balance of 405,712\$349.

The *Gazeta* of Porto Alegre, is informed that the government is about to invite tenders for the construction of the north line of Rio Grande, from Santa Maria to Uruguayana. The interest guarantee is 7 per cent. The government will require the completion of the line in a very short time.

It is announced that the minister of agriculture is about to reduce the fare on the Dom Pedro II line between this city and Cascadura—a distance of 10 kilometers. The new rates will be 200 reis first class, and 100 reis second class—the pupils in the primary schools being carried gratuitously.

A meeting of the Sorocabana shareholders was held in this city on the 4th inst. There were present 35 shareholders, representing 11,521 shares. The action taken by the previous meeting was unanimously approved. The election resulted in the choice of Francisco de Paula Mayrink as president, and Galvão José de Bessa and Eduardo Klingelhoefer as directors.

The narrowest of narrow-gauge rail ways in the world is the line between Bedford and North Billericay, Mass. It has a gauge of only ten inches. The road is 8½ miles long, has eleven bridges, and in one place has a grade of 155 feet. The cars seat thirty persons and are marvels of convenience and comfort. The engines weigh eight tons each, and the cars four and a half tons. The trains run twenty miles an hour for perfect safety. The cost of the road was about \$4,500 per mile.

In reply to a petition from the Imperial Brazil-Natal and Nova Cruz Railway Co. for an interest guarantee on an additional amount, of capital of 800,000\$ for the construction of a branch line from Natal to Cesárcia, the minister of agriculture refuses compliance on the grounds that there now remains only about one-sixth of the amount of 100,000,000\$ authorized by law upon which guarantees can be granted, and there are some provinces which have not yet received their just share of the benefits arising from such favors.

The total export of breadstuffs from the United States during the nine months ending September 30 amounted to a value of \$808,679,342, against \$76,399,946 in the same period of 1879. The export of wheat amounted to 16,091,677 bushels, and of flour to 4,506,849 barrels. The export of provisions in the same period amounted in value to \$102,722,559 against \$81,910,955 the year previous. The export of bacon and ham amounted to 597,110,470 pounds.

A new industry has sprung up in the state of Amazonas through the production of oranges. Its extent, and it has only just attracted attention, may be estimated from the fact that between the 1st and 26th of October there were shipped over one rail way for northwestern cities 21,000 barrels containing 6,300,000 oranges. The fruit is said to be much superior to the Citha orange and fully equal to that of Florida.

## D. R. RUSSELL MAC CORD, M. D.

Licensed by the IMPERIAL ESCOLA DE MEDICINA DO RIO DE JANEIRO  
101, Rua da Quitanda, 101  
Will ship in the Harbor.  
Office hours from 12 to 3 o'clock, p.m.

30-3

BROWN'S ESSENCE OF  
Jamaica Ginger.

Purchasers of Brown's Ginger are warned against purchasing counterfeits intended to be sold on the Spanish market in fake matches article. All real Brown's Ginger is prepared by the name of Incorporated with the U. S. Internal Revenue Stamp, to counterfeits which is fancy.

BROWN'S GINGER—  
For Traveler's use.

BROWN'S GINGER—  
For Summer Complaints.

BROWN'S GINGER—  
For Cramps and Colic.

BROWN'S GINGER—  
For Sea Sickness, Nausea,

BROWN'S GINGER—  
Sore Throat: no reaction.

BROWN'S GINGER—  
Used by Army and Navy.

BROWN'S GINGER—  
Used all over the World.

BROWN'S GINGER—  
Counteracts Impure Water.

BROWN'S GINGER—  
Prevents Malaria Disease.

BROWN'S GINGER—  
Delicious Summer Drink.

BROWN'S GINGER—  
Excellent in Rheumatism.

Everybody knows the value of Brown's Ginger as a household necessity and preventative of disease. Our drugstore gives you the right kind—Brown's Ginger, as described.

The weakness following long continued fever or any serious disease is the most serious as well as distressing symptom.

Alcoholic stimulants are objectionable, as their use is always followed by depression after the stimulating effect has passed.

Small talk with no reaction is what is required, and the use of one or two of Brown's Ginger in a half tumblerful of water will remove the effects of tea, coffee, as preferred, meets well, and promotes digestion.

CENTRAL DEPOSIT: No. 8 Rua São Pedro

1880

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Exports..... 227,021 505

258,053 201

The deposits, included in the above totals,

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posta on the "União e Industrial" road, was killed

by four slaves, each one of them striking him with a

knife in turn. The assassins were captured in the

afternoon at Entre Rios, no resistance being offered.

The victim was a young man of 18 years and was

highly esteemed in that locality. On the following

day a large body of people attended the burial,

after which, under the impulse of great excitement

and indignation, some 500 hundred of them marched

to the jail, took out the prisoners and killed

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